

Ted M. Natt, The Daily News.
 David Nemtzw, The Alliance to Save Energy.
 Richard A. Nenneman, The Christian Science Monitor (Ret.).
 Augustus Richard Norton, Boston University.
 Gordon W. Perkin, Path Program for Appropriate Technology in Health.
 Richard E. Pipes, Harvard University (Ret.).
 Brent Scowcroft, Forum for International Policy.
 Sarah B. Sewall, Harvard Law School.
 John W. Sewell, Overseas Development Council.
 George P. Schultz, Stanford University.
 Eugene B. Skolnikoff, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
 Stephen J. Solarz, APCO Associates Inc.
 Theodore C. Sorensen, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison.
 Claude A. Soudah, Bank of America NT&SA dba Seafirst Bank—Seattle.
 Deborah L. Spar, Harvard Business School.
 Dick Thornburgh, Kirkpatrick & Lockart LLP.
 Robert J.C. Van Leeuwen, World Affairs Council.
 Abelardo Lopez Valdez, Squire, Sanders & Dempsey.
 Cyrus R. Vance, Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett.
 Paul A. Volcker, Wolfensohn & Co., Inc.
 Raymond J. Waldmann, The Boeing Company.
 Louis T. Wells, Harvard Business School.
 Jennifer Seymour Whitaker, Council on Foreign Relations.
 John C. Whitehead, AEA Investors Inc.,
 Eden Y. Woon, Washington State China Relations Council.
 Dorothy S. Zinberg, Harvard University.

Mr. HOLLINGS. The report is endorsed by former Secretaries of State and those in the know both, in a bipartisan fashion. I thank the Chair.

TRIBUTE TO MARK JERSTAD

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity today to honor my dear friend, Reverend Mark Jerstad, a Lutheran pastor and head of the Good Samaritan Society in Sioux Falls. After having spent much of his adult life comforting the dying and grieving, Mark recently learned that he has terminal colon cancer. This news was a sad blow to all those who know and love him. Yet, as we face the loss of our friend, we are inspired by the strength of character shown by Mark and his family.

Mark's ability to help others confront their fears and prepare for their next journey has always been based on his strong faith in God. Now it is this same faith that has enabled Mark to be at peace with his own death. You see, Mark believes himself to be a lucky man. Unlike many, he has the time to say goodbye, and to reflect on the life he has led. As he says, we are nothing but the sum of our deeds. I believe him, and by this measure Mark is truly remarkable for he has lived a life of kindness and love. We cannot help but to grieve for the fact that Mark will no longer be with us. We must grieve for his children Rachel, Michael and Sarah, who will be losing their father.

And we must grieve for Sandy, who will lose her husband of 31 years. But we can be at peace knowing that Mark is living out his remaining days to the fullest. He is at peace, and with his loved ones.

Mark eloquently described the challenge we all face: "Unfortunately, people just can't seem to live life to the fullest until they come face to face with their own death and incorporate it into his or her own existence." Mark has done just that, continuing his work as the chief executive officer of the Good Samaritan Society of Sioux Falls while sharing his remaining precious days with friends and family from throughout the country. He is an example for us all.

Mark, we wish you and your family well. Let your faith, grace and dignity be a lesson to all.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of an article from the Sioux Falls Argus Leader honoring Mark Jerstad be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Sioux Falls (SD) Argus Leader]
 CEO WHO COUNSELED THE DYING FACES HIS OWN DEATH WITH FAITH

(By Steve Young)

Mark Jerstad sat in an X-ray room at Sioux Valley Hospital in November when cold reality swept over him.

The chief executive officer of the Good Samaritan Society in Sioux Falls had just finished tests for what doctors thought might be an appendix problem.

He was waiting alone for the results to come back when he suddenly felt "like a peeled grape shaking in a snowbank at 40 degrees below zero."

The feeling lasted 30 seconds. When it passed, this Lutheran pastor and business executive knew exactly what was wrong.

"All of a sudden, it came to me. . . almost like a voice," he recalls. "You have cancer, and it is terminal."

He was right.

Jerstad, 54, learned that he has an aggressive, advanced stage of colon cancer. There is no cure. There is only the hope that chemotherapy might prolong his life a month, maybe two.

But this isn't a story about one man dying. Rather, this is a tale about one man's incredible faith—and what it means to live in the shadow of your mortality.

Lean and angular, Jerstad greets visitors in his spacious Good Samaritan office with the same firm handshake that has been his trademark.

Though the chemotherapy leaves him periodically weak, he still routinely comes to work to oversee affairs at the nonprofit monolith that provides services to senior citizens in 240 facilities in 26 states.

This has been Jerstad's job for 7½ years. He has been with Good Samaritan since 1985. Before that, he was campus pastor and a religion professor for nine years at Augustana College. And before that he served as a pastor in International Falls, Minn.

In many ways, those years of ministering to church members and college students helped prepare him for what lay ahead.

In International Falls, Jerstad counseled scores of people and their families through death and grief.

"Honestly, I think I was given a gift of working with dying people," he said. "I

could be honest with them—someone who could be open-minded and listen and hear their fears."

So many times, he sat bedside at the moment of death, helping people in their journey from this existence to the next. It couldn't help but affect his own life.

"How can it not?" Jerstad says. "I mean, I believe we are the sum of our life's experiences. I really feel these very intimate sharings of people as they were dying have touched my life deeply and richly."

"They've helped me be at peace with my own dying, for sure."

Similarly, his years of teaching death and dying classes at Augustana helped prepare him as well.

Jerstad would share his experiences in International Falls with his classes. But his focus was more on living than dying.

"When you think about it, we're all terminal. . . . We're all dead men walking. We just don't know when that final day will be," he said.

"Unfortunately, people just can't seem to live life to the fullest until they come face to face with their own death and incorporate it into his or her own existence."

That isn't a problem for Jerstad. Indeed, there never has been a moment in the last three months when he bolted upright in bed in the middle of the night, sweating in fear about what awaits him.

CERTAIN SADNESS

Obviously, there is sadness. He looked forward to becoming a grandfather and baptizing his own grandchildren.

He thought maybe he would get to officiate at the marriages of his two daughters and his son—a possibility that now seems remote.

"You know, I kind of wish it was summer rather than winter," he said as he glanced out his office window. "I like to be able to sit out in my backyard in the afternoons and evenings, just watching the sun go down."

Still, Jerstad won't mire himself in what might have been. He is a man of the moment.

When he was diagnosed with cancer, he had to wait a couple of days before undergoing colon surgery. So Jerstad got a discharge form, signed his name to it and checked himself out of Sioux Valley for the day.

He then drove out to Good Samaritan and attended the morning Bible study there. After sharing news about his cancer with co-workers and staff, he "went home to my kids, built a big fire in the fireplace and just kind of hung out. It really was a wonderful time."

There have been many similar moments since.

He talks about liking to begin each day by snuggling in bed with his wife, Sandy, and sharing a thought or two.

"Sometimes, I reach over and just touch her . . . and thank God for our partnership of 31 years."

He goes into the office most mornings and stays until the work day ends, or until he wear out.

GREETING OLD FRIENDS

In recent weeks, he has spent much time greeting old friends who have sought him out during his illness. One of them flew recently from Alaska, another from Hawaii, yet a third came all the way from Johns Hopkins in Baltimore to spend 45 minutes with him.

"There was a tycoon I knew who wept like a child and embraced me," Jerstad said, his smile growing as he recounts the memory. "I was able to comfort him, and we both were able to grow through that experience."

That, he will tell you, is one of the joys about living when you are dying. It certainly makes him thankful that his life did not end suddenly, that he has had weeks and months to prepare.

Undoubtedly, Jerstad thinks a lot about what death will be like. But he doesn't fear it.

"One of the things that fires me up," he said, and his voice breaks as his eyes fill with tears, "is knowing I'll get the chance to meet my dad again. He died a couple of years ago. I loved him dearly."

What a glorious reunion, the son said. Yet until then, this husband and father intends to revel in the support of his family, his friends and his faith—for as long as he has.

"I have to say, I wonder if I have been given a gift," Jerstad said, marveling at his own outlook. "I mean, I'm surely not in denial. If anyone has accepted the reality of their death much sooner than normal, it is I."

GIFT OF FAITH

How can that be? How can anyone face death with no resentment, anger or bitterness?

In a phrase, he said with a smile, it is a gift.

"The gift of faith," Mark Jerstad said. "Maybe I'm not angry because I'm so hopeful for the life beyond this life."

"I'll be honest; I know my life is in the hands of the Lord. I can't fantasize anything better than that."

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ASHCROFT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The hour of 12 o'clock having arrived, morning business is closed.

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 1, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget.

The Senate resumed consideration of the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. I thank the Chair.

We are returning to the balanced budget constitutional amendment debate. This is a singularly important debate in our Nation's history. And while I am talking, I am going to constantly refer to just 28 of the unbalanced budgets since 1969—28 of them. We had to find a table strong enough to hold them, and we could not put them on top of each other. As you can see, they are almost as high as I am, stacked in twos and threes. If we put them on top of each other, they would reach almost

to the ceiling. These are our unbalanced budgets over the last 28 years, every last one. And yet every time we get into this debate, our friends on the other side of this issue come in and say, "Oh, let's just have the will to do this. We can do it if we want to, if we just have the will." And we heard the President the other evening talking about all you have to do is pass it and I will sign it.

Give me a break. That is what was said in every one of these instances. And a number of them were listed as balanced budgets during this time. It turned out to be horrendous budgetary deficits rather than balanced budgets. You can just look at this stack—and this is just 28 years. This does not count the other unbalanced budgets for most of the last 60 years. This is just 28 years, these stacks right here.

A lot of good intentions, a lot of people working hard to try to do what is right but never accomplishing it because they did not have the fiscal discipline necessary to get it accomplished. You cannot look at this and listen to these arguments of "Why don't we just do what we should do."

After 28 years—and we are just using the last 28 years like I am saying—after 28 years we have to wake up and say we do need a fiscal mechanism to help Congress to do its job because it has not done its job in the last 37 years and most of the last 60 years.

If we put them all up here, we would not have room. Frankly, we are worried with this stack that we might be violating OSHA rules. If these happen to fall over, somebody's leg could get broken.

We are returning to this debate, and it is an important debate. It is about whether we have reached the turning point in our Nation's history in our fiscal affairs which will change the way we have been doing business. We are hoping that if we pass this amendment, we will profoundly effect a legacy we leave to all future Americans.

We have, as I have said, had piled on this table the failed budgetary history of the last 28 years. These are the unbroken string of unbalanced budgets that we have had since 1969.

As Senator ABRAHAM observed last night, this is about as close to balancing the budget as we have come, balancing these budget documents on this table so they will not fall over. That is about as close as we get to balancing budgets. We are not sure we have it balanced well even that way, so you can imagine how difficult it must be to try to balance them the real way.

We received today yet another budget submission. In this one, President Clinton has promised to point us to balancing our budget by the year 2002. In the coming days and weeks, the Congress will be reviewing this budget submission to determine whether it will be just another failed attempt that we toss on top of this huge pile. Of course, since this budget for fiscal year 1998 will not itself balance, it can be placed

on this stack of unbalanced budgets. But we have yet to see if Congress will be able to work with this budget submission to get us on the path to balance by 2002.

We should all understand that the backdrop to all this is that the Congressional Budget Office has recently painted a less rosy picture of the deficit in the next few years under current policies. Let me just take this chart.

As this chart shows, CBO predicts that the deficit will begin to rise this year and continue rising throughout the foreseeable future. The CBO predicts that the deficit will rise to \$124 billion in fiscal year 1997 and continue to rise to \$188 billion by fiscal year 2002, the year we hope we will have balanced the budget. The deficits just keep rising until 2007, as you can see. Our annual deficit is projected to be, at that time, \$278 billion a year.

Added up, these deficits will add a total of more than 2 trillion additional dollars to the debt from now until the year 2007. That is if we do what the President is going to offer today.

The point is that we cannot yet congratulate ourselves for a job well done. There is work ahead for all of us to do, and there is no assurance of success. Based on the sad history illustrated by these 28 years of budgetary submissions, success has to be considered, by any reasonable person, to be in serious doubt. That is why we need a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. It has been called an insurance policy that we will get the budget actually balanced in the year 2002 and, more important, that we keep it balanced afterward, instead of doing what it appears will be done up through the year 2007, a continual rising deficit each year, well over hundreds of billions of dollars.

I think the combination of these illustrations of the past and the projections for the future based on our current policy suggest that the past is prologue and should show us that we need a balanced budget amendment.

We have been through debates on this measure before. I would like to outline briefly for those watching these debates what they are likely to hear from the opponents of this amendment based on past debates and the positions outlined to this point in this debate.

First, let me point out this is not a partisan disagreement or debate, and it should not be. That is only fitting and proper for a constitutional debate. You have to have people on both sides supporting a constitutional amendment or there is no way it even has a chance of passing. This is a bipartisan amendment.

Some opponents of a balanced budget amendment will attempt to paint this debate as a battle of parties, of a choice between a Republican amendment or a Democrat amendment or Democrat opposition to the amendment. While I hasten to point out that all 55 Republican Senators, every one of us, are supportive of this balanced